

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 21, 2004. Claims 5, 8, 9, and 12 to 14 are in the application, with Claim 5 being independent. Claim 5 has been amended. Newly-added Claims 13 and 14 contain subject matter previously recited in Claim 5. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 8 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Fig. 7 of the subject application in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,987,474 (Yasuhara) and U.S. Patent No. 5,442,229 (Mori); and Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Fig. 7 in view of Yasuhara, Mori and U.S. Patent No. 5,591,960 (Furukawa). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 recites, *inter alia*, (a) the sealant is applied so that sealant flows on the lead toward an end of the lead, in combination with (b) the sealant flowing on the lead toward the end of the lead flows all the way to the end of the lead.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Fig. 7, Yasuhara, Mori and Furukawa, even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that such could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed combination of claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claim 5. It is further respectfully submitted that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features.

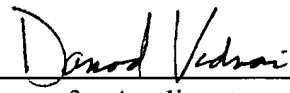
The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent

claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office at (202) 721-5477. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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